

PATENT CLAIMS

1. A contact zone (1) of a quenching chamber which is arranged rotationally symmetrically about a central axis (2) and is filled with an insulating medium, having at least two stationary consumable contacts which are in the form of contact rings (4, 15) and which, when the quenching chamber is closed, are electrically conductively connected by means of a bridging contact which is arranged centrally and can move axially and having electrically insulating covers (11, 22), which at least partially cover mutually facing end surfaces, characterized

- in that a wedge-shaped annular gap, (11a, 22a) which is open in the radial direction and originates from a contact-making edge (10, 21) of the cover (11, 22), is provided between a contact-making surface (7, 18) and an insulating cover (11, 22) and

- in that the edge (10, 21) is dielectrically shielded by means of an annular bead (8, 19) which projects beyond the contact-making surface (7, 18).

2. The contact zone as claimed in claim 1, characterized

- in that the edge (10, 21) is arranged in the immediate vicinity of the annular bead (8, 19).

3. The contact zone as claimed in one of claims 1 or 2, characterized

- in that the cover (11, 22) has a rectangular cross section in the region where it covers the contact-making surface (7, 18) and

- in that an elastic projection (12, 23) is integrally formed as a rim, which extends in the axial direction, externally on this rectangular cross section.

4. The contact zone as claimed in claim 3, characterized

- in that the rim is provided with means which allow the cover (11, 22) to be connected mechanically to the contact ring (4, 15), and
- in that the mechanical connection is made such that the edge (10, 21) is always pressed in a sprung manner against the contact-making surface (7, 18)

5. The contact zone as claimed in claim 4, characterized

- in that the mechanical connection is designed to be detachable.

6. The contact zone as claimed in claim 5, characterized

- in that a snap-action apparatus or a screw connection is provided as the mechanical connection.